Construction of an approach road to Mangalapuzha.

202 *MR. JOSEPH VITHAYATHIL: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have sanctioned the construction of an approch road to Mangalapuzha from the Alwaye Parur road;

(*b*) when was the sanction given; and

(*c*) whether the construction of the road has begun till now?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In October 1934.

(*c*) Yes.

The Karingachira Dam near Puthenchira.

203 *MR. JOSEPH VITHAYATIL: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received representations praying for the construction of some more openings in the Karingachira Dam near Puthenchira; and

(*b*) whether they have made any enquiries into the matter?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

Trivandrum Water Supply.

204 *MR. N. VELU ACHARY (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of house connections in Trivandrum, excluding Government buildings;

(*b*) whether they have considered the question of raising temporarily the minimum quantity of water now allowed freely to private house connections in the Trivandrum Water Supply;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the water works plant is working only at less than half its load; and

(*d*) whether they have considered the question of popularising the water supply?

VASTU VIDIA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO: (*a*) One thousand and one to end of Mithunam 1112.

(*b*) It is not felt necessary to consider this question, since the quantity of water now allowed free of charge has been found to be quite reasonable to meet the average requirements.

(*c*) Yes. The filter Plant is being worked to meet the present requirements only. But it has been designed for the prospective population of the water supply town in 1961.

(*d*) The water supply is already quite popular.

Meter hire under Trivandrum Water Supply.

205 *MR. N. VELU ACHARY: Will the Government be pleased to state in respect of the Trivandrum Water Supply:

(*a*) whether meter hire is being levied from private persons for meter which is only in the custody of Government; and

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(*b*) whether they have considered the question of constructing an additional glass lid to the meter box so as to enable house owners to read the meter?

VASTU VIDIA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO: (*a*) Yes. Water Works Rule 16a. requires that "Meters of a type approved by the Water Works Engineer shall be provided at the cost of the owner or occupier of the house or premises but shall be kept under the lock and key of the Water Supply Department". In order to reduce the cost of house connections and bring them within easy reach of the average house-owner, Government are issuing their own meters on requisition and maintain them, in return for which service and for covering the interest and depreciation charges in respect of the meters, hire is being charged to the consumers who applied for the supply of meter on hire.

(*b*) Yes. But the glass lid covers will always be moisture-laden inside and will not facilitate reading the meters, and hence it is not proposed to provide an additional glass lid for the meter box.

Appointments in the Water Works and Drainage Department.

206. ✱ **MR. K. T. THOMAS:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether persons have been appointed, as Water Works Inspectors, who do not possess the minimum qualifications prescribed for that post, in the Water Works and Drainage Department;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the date of such appointment, the persons so appointed and the reasons for such appointment;

(*c*) whether any appointments have been made in the Work Establishment of the Water Works and Drainage Department, of persons after superannuation; and

(*d*) if the answer to part (*c*) is in the affirmative, the names of the persons so entertained, the salary they draw and the reasons for their entertainment?

VASTU VIDIA KUSALA C. BALAKRISHNA RAO: (*a*) No.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of reply to (*a*) above.

(*c*) Yes. Two persons.

(*d*) (i) Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar ... Salary Rs. 60
(ii) Mr. R. Ramanatha Aiyar ... Salary Rs. 25

They have been entertained in connection with the accounting of stores and materials for finally closing the accounts of Water Works Project involving the large outlay of over half a crore of rupees. This work required the services of persons well experienced in works accounts. As these persons were the best suited for the kind of work to be done urgently, they had to be entertained in the interests of the work. Of the two persons, Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar was appointed by the Chief Engineer when the Water Works Division formed part of the P. W. D. as he also was convinced of the necessity.

MR. K. T. THOMAS: May I know whether the two officers mentioned in the answer to part (d) are still in service?

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